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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Confirmation No.: Unassigned

Maikel Petrus PEPPELENBOSCH, et al.

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

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PROTEINS AND NUCLEIC ACIDS AND THEIR APPALICATION IN EXPANSION OF

STEM CELLS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.